CLAIMS:

I claim:

1. A method for providing to a user media suggestions based on lists associating media segment references using one or more general purpose data processors, comprising:

retrieving said lists and parsing their media segment references into searchable records comprising text descriptors of corresponding media segments,

storing said records into memory available to said processor in combination with any previously stored records,

receiving a user request comprising text descriptors and specification of an output text descriptor type,

searching said stored lists and retrieving lists comprising one or more records comprising one or more text descriptors matching said user input text descriptors,

compiling a list of unique text descriptors of the output type that are present in said retrieved lists,

scoring each of said unique text descriptors of the output type according to the number of said retrieved lists it appears in, and

providing to said user a list of top-scoring text descriptors of said unique text descriptors.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said lists associating media segment references are retrieved through a data network.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said lists associating media segment references are HTML pages retrieved through a TCP/IP network.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said retrieval, parsing and storage of said lists associating media segment references is automatically performed as new lists become available.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the locations of said lists associating media segment references is stored in a master list.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the scores of said unique text descriptors of the output type is modified by adding the number of unique locations of said master list on which said unique text descriptor has been found, multiplied by a weighting factor.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein said user requests are the descriptors of media segments just purchased or served to a user, sent automatically as a consequence of said purchasing or serving.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein media segments corresponding to said top-scoring text descriptors are automatically made available to a user.

9. A data processing system for providing to a user media suggestions based on lists associating media segment references, comprising:

    (a) a general purpose data processor of known type for processing data;

    (b) data storage means for storing data on a storage medium;

    (c) means for retrieving said lists associating media segments and parsing them into searchable records comprising text descriptors of corresponding media segments and storing said records into said data storage with any previously stored records;

(d) means for receiving a user request comprising text descriptors and specification of an output text descriptor type;

(e) means for searching said stored lists and retrieving lists comprising one or more records comprising one or more text descriptors matching said user input text descriptors;

(f) means for compiling a list of unique text descriptors of the output type that are present in said retrieved lists

(g) means for scoring each of said unique text descriptors of the output type according to the number of said retrieved lists it appears in

(h) means for providing to said user a list of top-scoring text descriptors of said unique text descriptors

10. The data processing system of claim 9 wherein said lists associating media segment references are retrieved through a data network.

11. The data processing system of claim 9 wherein said lists associating media segment references are HTML pages retrieved through a TCP/IP network.

12. The data processing system of claim 9 wherein said retrieval, parsing and storage of said lists associating media segment references is automatically performed as new lists become available.

13. The data processing system of claim 9 wherein the locations of said lists associating media segment references is stored in a master list.

14. The data processing system of claim 13 wherein the scores of said unique text descriptors of the output type is modified by adding the number of unique locations of said master list on which said unique text descriptor has been found, multiplied by a weighting factor.

15. The data processing system of claim 9 wherein said user requests are the descriptors of media segments just purchased or served to a user, sent automatically as a consequence of said purchasing or serving.

16. The data processing system of claim 9 wherein said system includes means to store media segments and means to provide said media segments automatically to a user responsive to said list of top-scoring descriptors.